

COUNTRY USSR

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SUBJECT Occurrence of Rinderpest (Cattle Plague)

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1. There were no incidents of Rinderpest (cattle plague) in Latvia, from 1928 until [redacted] 1944: In fact, the disease disappeared from Central Europe, as well as Latvia and Lithuania, shortly after the turn of the 20th century, due to careful and rigorous control measures.
2. Rinderpest was not known in European USSR after the turn of the 20th century, but it spread in Asia and the Soviet Transcaucasus, brought in from Turkey and Armenia principally. The Soviet Rinderpest Institute, at Zurnabad in the Transcaucasus, worked exclusively on the passive immunization of this disease, using serums derived from oxen. Doctor J Lus and Doctor Dartovsky /fnu/, were the responsible pioneers in this field, until the former's death from typhus in 1921. Since that time, Doctor Dzhunkovsky /fnu/, was active in the field of developing resistance, only I have heard that he since fled to Bulgaria, I do not know who is now working in the Institute at Zurnabad, although as late as 1944, I heard of outbreaks of Rinderpest in Tblisi and Batumi, even though strong measures to control the spread of the disease had been in effect since 1928, including quarantine, vaccination and careful border checks between the Transcaucasus, Turkey and Iran.

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